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The Communicator

A Monthly Newsletter for SC Career Specialists



**Robbie Tweito, Pendleton Region
Regional Career Specialist
Named 2012 Alliance Director of the Year
at 2012 Education and Business Summit**

Robbie Tweito is the Regional Career Specialist for the Pendleton Region where she has served for 3 years. Prior to accepting the RCS position, Tweito worked as Director of Guidance for Pickens High School. "I was very honored to receive the award for Regional Career Specialist. Through career education programs, students can acquire the knowledge and skills they will

need to make appropriate career decisions in the future. Because of Career & Technology Education courses, students can be prepared to further their education and enter the workforce as successful citizens. I am proud to be able to work with many talented career specialists and counselors in the Pendleton region who provide career education opportunities for students to experience what really happens in the real world."

Audrey Keys, Ebenezer Middle School, Sumter County

Named Career Specialist of the Year at 2012 Education and Business Summit

Instructional support is an important factor in maintaining the integrity and validity of curriculum content as well as the enthusiasm of the instructional staff. The career specialist is charged with providing staff opportunities for professional growth and development in order to stimulate and maintain the energy necessary to deliver quality instruction on a daily basis while assisting with career awareness, discovery, and development. Keys stated, "Receiving the honor as Career Specialist of the Year for the state of South Carolina is both exhilarating and humbling. As I think of the vast array of experiences and skills of my colleagues who work diligently to bring career activities and experiences to our students, the award is especially inspiring. This recognition, coupled with the June 2012 National Go Green Middle Level Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Award received by Ebenezer Middle School, overwhelms me with pride and excitement. As a career specialist who serves as FBLA co-advisor, collaborating with students is an adventure. These experiences allow students to develop leadership skills and learn about the impact of their actions on the global society. In order to increase career awareness and academic potential, career specialists and I must continue to provide students with opportunities for self development, exposure to service learning projects, and awareness of academic and career competitive activities. Again, it is an honor to receive this award. I extend sincere appreciation and thanks to Crishell Bass, regional career specialist, for submitting my name and to the judges for selecting me. "



AROUND THE STATE IN THREE PAGES:
CAREER DEVELOPMENT IN SC PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Aiken County

Aiken High School sponsored a career fair on the evening of October 30, 2012. Fifty-two organizations and over seventy occupations were represented. A packed parking lot and a filled-to-capacity gymnasium were only the beginning of the story for this “family night out” activity. For additional details contact **Karen Lusby-Leffel** at KLLEFFEL@aiken.k12.sc.us. Read more here:

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20121031/AIK0101/121039928/1004/ahs-career-night-brings-more-than-average-job-fair>

Greenville County

Michelle Hammond, Guidance Counselor and CDF at **Tanglewood Middle School**, began the year with a plan to cover career development activities along with her other counselor duties. Hammond’s focus is on all sixteen clusters, divided by five academies/schools of study. Activities held to date include: “How to be a Disc Jockey,” “Careers in Banking,” “Tiger Talk from Clemson University discusses what it takes to be a tiger: Teamwork, Integrity, Gratitude, Education, and Respect,” “Goodwill talked to students about motivation, self-actualization, and future employment and job training with Goodwill,” “Operation Get Smart : a crime prevention/ public awareness program sponsored by the SC Dept. Of Corrections,” and a “STEM field trip to Furman University for the Youth Symposium where students had the opportunity to hear about careers in advanced manufacturing and STEM.” More is yet to come in Hammond’s activity chart. For more information contact Ms. Hammond at mhammond@greenville.k12.sc.us

Correction: In the October issue of the Career Specialist Newsletter, Ridgeview High School was identified as a school in Richland School District One. Ridgeview High School is in Richland School District Two.

Career Day at Blythewood Middle School, Richland School District 2

Community leaders encouraged students to think about their future during Career Day. BMS teachers welcomed 55 guest speakers into their classrooms to give students an opportunity to explore various careers in local businesses and industries. “We had a phenomenal response from our community,” said ***Lisa Proffitt, Career Development Facilitator and organizer of the annual event.*** “Of course students are not expected to choose a career in middle school, but they can make decisions about their career path by taking related classes in high school and preparing for college. Career exploration can help students set academic goals that point them in the right direction for a career,” said Proffitt. The students also learned about the 16 career clusters of study offered in schools across the state of South Carolina.



Federal Bureau of Investigations; Executive Chef, Richard Rouse; Deputy Curtis Wilson – RCSD; Brenda Hafner, BMS Principal, Senator Joel Lourie, Mayor of Blythewood Richard Ross, Lisa Proffitt, BMS Career Development Facilitator; Joseph Scott, Manager of BoJangles



RCSD - Aviation Unit; RCSD – Mounted Patrol; Dr. Steve Shelton, ER Physician, Palmetto Health; RCSD – Bomb Squad Unit; RCSD – K-9 Unit; Tim Pulliam, WIS-TV & Lisa Proffitt, BMS



John Covert, Owner Covert Homes; Major Taj Troy – F-16 Fighter Pilot, ANG; Richland County EMS; Chelsea Washington, WIS-TV; Dr. David Hodson, Prof. of Psychiatry, USC



Officer Tammy Moore, City of Columbia CSI; James Starks, WLTX & Former NFL Player; Mr. Hill - Columbia Richland Fire Dept.; Reggie Anderson, WLTX

Lisa will be leaving the state of South Carolina. We wish her well in her career endeavors. Thanks, Lisa, for all you’ve done in Richland 2!

Below is an article published in the *Herald-Journal*, Spartanburg, SC, on Thursday, November 8, 2012. The original article was authored by Lee G. Healy at lee.healy@shj.com. The article is reprinted with the permission of Mr. Healy.

LANDRUM STUDENTS GET TASTE OF LIFE WITH REALITY FAIR

Rent. Car payments. Child care and food costs.

Landrum High School seniors got a sudden taste of the real world on Thursday at the school's second reality fair, organized by SC TELCO Federal Credit Union.

The fair was a simulated "Game of Life." Every student was randomly given a "life" card, detailing marital status, education and income level, profession and how many children they had, if any. Students were even assigned a credit score.

"I hope they'll learn fiscal responsibility. To budget and to be more prudent in their decisions," said LHS guidance counselor and career specialist Shannon McCrimmon. "I ultimately want them to be successful. ... This is giving them a taste of reality."

Each participant had a unique identity that factored into every decision they made.

Volunteers guided students through all of life's "necessities," like housing, food and transportation needs. A smart, lucky few cruised through easily, with money to spare for things like fancy cell phones, entertainment or savings. Others, often with lower income levels and larger families, were forced to take on a second job, or scale back from a sports car to a fuel efficient sedan.

Lexy Schulman, 18, learned a hard lesson at the "reality check" table. She drew a card that set her back \$1,000 for the month. It said she was texting and driving and hit another vehicle, resulting in a fine, a spike in insurance and repairs to her car.

"I didn't know it was this expensive," said Schulman, who was playing the role of a high school graduate with one child and employed as an insurance agent.

Hunter Conley, 17, became a police officer with a wife and child to support. With a net monthly income of not quite \$2,000, Conley selected a small car and a modest two bedroom, one bath house, but expenses like child care and the \$170 cavity he needed filled nearly sent his budget in the negative. Conley picked up a part-time job as a janitor to make ends meet.

"You have to give up luxuries to make a comfortable living space," he said. "We've got to get used to all the things you have to pay for. It's a good start to real life."

Terri Hendrix, community relations manager for SC TELCO, hoped the exercise would stick with students as they move on to college and "the real world" next year.

"If we can present this in a creative and fun way, so they have it on their minds, that's half the battle," Hendrix said.



Lexy Schulman, 18, a Landrum High School student, reacts planning out her budget. Landrum High has partnered with the South Carolina Telco Federal Credit Union to let students act out the Game of Life through a reality fair. They'll be assigned an occupation and real life responsibilities.
ALEX HICKS JR/alex.hicks@shj.com

If what you did yesterday still looks big to you today, you probably haven't done enough today. Between the great things we can't do and the little things we won't do, the danger is that we'll do nothing at all.

IGP Success Planner Questions and

Q. Do I have to use the electronic signature in the Parent Portal?

A. No. You may print, sign, and file the IGP as you had in the past. However, to use the e-signature in the e-IGPs first lock the IGP; have the parent go into ParentPortal, click on e-IGPs Success Viewer, go to the end of the document and sign in the box provided; once the e-signature is complete in ParentPortal then the signature will be visible on the e-IGPs and the document can be made "primary."

Q. Is this the final version of the IGP Success Planner?

A. No. There will also be a version 2 with some necessary enhancements. However, updates are being made by Pearson on an as-needed basis to repair/correct functionality issues. Pearson has recently released another update (version 1.1.1) that should be uploaded by your security manager. Summary Reports and The Graduation Planner Setup for Curriculum Managers were part of this update release.

Q. My middle schools are not showing in the list when I build my curriculum in the Curriculum Manager Tab.

A. Middle schools will be added in the next repair in a couple of weeks.

Q. How do we assign students to clusters and majors if we do not use Academies/Schools of Study?

A. The Curriculum Manager should create an academy titled "no academy" for the cluster. When building the e-IGPs, the counselor would choose "no academy" from the drop down which would then populate the clusters, then majors, etc.

Q. We are not able to assign courses to majors. When you go into the curriculum manager function and click on majors and then assign courses, it will not allow you to assign courses. The search function does not yield any results whether you are seeking a course by title or by a course number. (answer subject to change)

A. Ensure that the courses have a credit type of "HS" associated with high school courses that should be active in the IGP system.

Q. Our system is taking forever to load courses in the system. Is there a problem at Pearson?

A. First, try using the e-IGPs in Mozilla FireFox. Many of you may need to contact your district IT personnel to add FireFox to your desktop or tablet. Contact the Pearson helpdesk at CustomApplicationSolutions@Pearson.com if FireFox does not remedy the problem. Please include Sherry Williams and/or Dr. Sabrina Moore in your email to them. Our email addresses are srwillia@ed.sc.gov and smoore@ed.sc.gov

E-IGP Questions and Answers (cont'd):

Q. The resources page is not working.

A. Ensure that you have 1) included a link, 2) given the page a title, and 3) provided a description for link. The resource page name is what shows in the resources and serves as a hyperlink to the page.

Q. What happened to Resources link on the parent page?

A. Pearson will remove the link to the Resources on the Parent Portal on their latest update which will be released anytime now. Because of the nature of the resources which we are instructing the schools to enter, the schools are entering direct links to sensitive information about students, for example SCDIS, and we do not want the students to dig into those sites and potentially find data on other students.

Q. When will manuals and videos be posted to the web for district help?

A. Manuals will be posted on December 3, 2012, along with videos for curriculum managers and counselors. Resources can be found on the Personal Pathways to Success Counselor Page found here:

<http://ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/174/Pathways/Counselors.cfm>

CSAR Links

Links for the Career Specialist Accountability Report, due January 18, 2013, will be sent to all EEDA District Coordinators November 30, 2012, for distribution to schools. Contact your EEDA District Coordinator for the link/access to the CSAR. Please contact Sherry Williams at srwillia@ed.sc.gov with questions.



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